IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page l, line 4 as follows:

Cross-Reference to Related Application(s)

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/693,396, filed on October 20, 2000, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,363,283, which is a division of U.S. Application No. 09/302,853, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,353,760, filed on April 30, 1999, the specifications of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16 as follows:

For example, U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/550,835, ~~filed on October 31, 1996,~~ now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,869,970, ~~in the name of M. Brook and~~ titled "Power Management System for an Implantable Device", shows a process for managing a power source, the power source having an output voltage, comprising the steps of:

periodically switching a load across the power source using a switch;

monitoring the output voltage of the power source using a dedicated voltage monitoring device and current monitoring device;

if the current monitoring device detects a current equal to or greater than a predetermined current threshold, opening the switch for one switching period; and

if the output voltage is less than a selected threshold voltage, opening the switch until the output voltage is greater than the selected threshold voltage. This process is designed to and effectively does reduce the overall power utilization of a pacing system and can act to extend the life of a digitally charged power supply.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line as follows:

Cardiac pacing systems are almost exclusively electronic, with no moving parts, so energy usage is already at relatively efficient rates. Any savings in energy usage is therefore very significant in extending the life of the battery in the pacing unit and in avoiding any invasive medical procedures. There are three general areas in which power utilization may be controlled: a) assuring that no work in performed when the inherent performance of the heart occurs, b) optimization of the function and power utilization of the components themselves, and c) programming of the pacing device to control the output of energy. Any new variation within these areas or new procedures which can be executed to reduce energy usage and prolong the life of the battery are highly desirable, in addition to the specific means shown in U.S. ~~patent Application 08/550,835~~ Patent No. 5,869,970 shown above.